

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendment and following remarks.

Status of the Claims

Claims 5-17, 19, 20 and 22-29 are pending in this application. Claims 5, 11, 19, 20, 22-24, 28 and 29 are independent. By this Amendment, claims 12-16 and 24-29 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 5, 11, 19, 20, 22 and 23 are herein amended. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

All of the pending claims (i.e., claims 5-17, 19, 20 and 22-29) have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,987,186 to Oida et al. ("Oida") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,499,108 to Cotte et al. ("Cotte"). Applicant notes that the Office Action incorrectly indicates the number for Oida patent as U.S. Patent No. 5,634,187. Applicant assumes that the Oida patent actually is U.S. Patent No. 5,987,186.

The office action indicates that Oida discloses each and every element of the pending claims except for the detector of the pending claims which is configured to detect selectively a print sheet in the printing and an original to be scanned in the scanning.

The office action then cites Cotte alleging that this reference discloses the missing element of Oida, i.e., the detector. The office action indicates Figs. 9 and 12 of Cotte along with col. 7, line 65 - col. 8, line 7; and col. 10, lines 19-40 for the basis of the rejections.

One of the aspects of the present invention is directed to following two-step operations. First of all, the scanner software installed in the external computer is started when it is detected that the scan head is mounted on the print device. Secondly, the scanning operation is executed when the original to be scanned is detected.

Oida discloses that a print head and a scan head can be selectively mounted on a carriage of a printer and a print operation or a scan operation is executed based on a control of a personal computer connected to the printer. Oida, however, does not disclose that an operation is executed when it is detected that the scan head is mounted on the carriage.

Cotte discloses that an input apparatus is started and a scanning operation is executed when a paper sensor arranged on the input apparatus detects an original. Cotte, however, does not disclose how scan software installed in a host computer is started.

As a result, the cited references (i.e., Oida and Cotte), taken either alone or in combination, fail to show or suggest at least one aspect of the invention, i.e., the scanner software installed in the external computer is started when it is detected that the scan head is mounted on the print device.

Claims 5, 11, 19, 20, 22 and 23 have been amended as shown above to further clarify this aspect of the invention. In particular, claim 5 as amended recites that "wherein said print device communicates with said external computer to start said scanner software when said first detector detects that said scan head is mounted on said head mounting portion, and to execute the scanning by said scan software when said second detector detects the original to be scanned in the scanning." Claims 19 and 22 have been amended similarly. Each of claims 11, 20 and 23

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has been amended to depend from claims 5, 19 and 22, respectively.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of independent claims 5, 19 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Applicants has not individually addressed the rejections of the dependent claims because Applicants submit that the independent claims from which they respectively depend are in condition for allowance as set forth above. Applicant however reserves the right to address such rejections of the dependent claims should such be necessary.

Applicant believes that the application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

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AUTHORIZATION

No petitions or additional fees are believed due for this amendment and/or any accompanying submissions. However, to the extent that any additional fees and/or petition is required, including a petition for extension of time, Applicant hereby petitions the Commissioner to grant such petition, and hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees, including any fees which may be required for such petition, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500 (Order No. 1232-4544). **A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ENCLOSED.**

An early and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN LLP

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By: 
Sung Ho Hong
Registration No. 54,571

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:
MORGAN & FINNEGAN L.L.P.
345 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10154
(212) 758-4800